

**RUSHVILLE CITY COMMON COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012**  
**6:00 P.M.**

The Rushville City Common Council met on the above date and time at 270 W 15th Street, Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., with Bob Bridges, Brian Conner, Craig Smith, Brad Berkemeier and Brian Sheehan answering roll call. Also present was City Attorney, Julie Newhouse, Mike Selke, WIFE Radio, and Melissa Conrad, *Rushville Republican*.

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the January 17, 2012 meeting were presented for approval. Bridges made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Pavey reported the following:

- Would like to schedule a budget summit. He asked Council to e-mail him dates that would be good. He would like to schedule this for late February or the first part of March.
- Will be implementing a leadership program with the Departments Heads.
- Will be scheduling a public meeting in the Jackson Street area regarding the old Park Restaurant.
- Presented the "State of the City" address to the Rotary last Tuesday.
- The Council Chambers and City Hall are now Wi-Fi accessible.
- The Historical Board held their initial meeting. The Board members are Jim Huston, Joe Rathz, Lisa Winship, Kristen Hass, and Al Hodge.
- Pavey said he would like to have a couple of Council, Board of Works Members and Department Heads to serve on a committee to look into personnel issues, benefit changes, etc., before it is time to start working on the salary ordinance.
- Will be naming a representative to serve on the Work One Board.
- The Solid Waste District has invited Council to attend a recycle forum on February 9 at 6:30 at the Elks.
- The Learning Center Board met. Pavey has appointed Jason Clemons to the Board.
- Met with Jim Finan, Bob Bridges, the Mayor of Connersville, Connersville ECDC Director, and their Grant Writer regarding dialog on various programs.
- Pavey has asked the Department Heads to make sure when hiring employees that they go over the job descriptions with them and have them sign off that they have reviewed the job description and understand their duties.

**CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT**

Copley said she had a request from Ray Weber from Emerson asking for an extension until the end of May to file his CF1 for real property. Copley asked Council what their thoughts were on the matter. Sheehan made a motion to allow Emerson until the end of March and to have the CF1 on the agenda for the first

meeting in April. Bridges seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 4-1. Councilman Berkemeier voted "nay".

#### **COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Bridges said he and Mayor Pavey attended a Fiber Board meeting. He said the Board did not appear to have been real active. They were presented with some financials. Bridges said that the original contract was with Randy Frye and he sold out to Boyer. There were some questions regarding the contract and how it was drawn. Boyer is going to review the contract with Frye for clarification and report back. Bridges said this is one more positive aspect for our community.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Animal** – Moran said they are implementing a volunteer program for kids. It will help to teach the kids the basic care of animals. Moran thanked Saint Mary's School for the donation of treat bags for the animals.

**Park** – Mathews invited anyone who wished to chaperone the Valentine dance at the Benjamin Rush Middle School on Friday from 6:00 – 8:00.

**Police** – Tucker passed out a report for the month of January.

**Fire** – Jenkins passed out a list of options for Council to consider regarding the vacancy left by the retirement of Dennis Wayt.

#### **CITIZEN CONCERNS**

None.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Funding for Tornado Sirens** – At the last meeting Verlin Custer discussed with Council the need to upgrade the tornado sirens. The Council asked the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to look at the budget to see if there was a place that would be feasible to take the \$4,000.00 to upgrade the sirens. Copley said that she and the Mayor had spoken and decided the best place to pay for the sirens would be from Cum Cap Development planning line item. The line item is 402-402-430. Berkemeier made a motion to go ahead and upgrade the sirens through appropriation 402-402-430. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Garbage Ordinance Proposal** – Newhouse said she and Smith have been working on the ordinance. They are combining the old ordinance and updating the terminology of receptacles and containers. Smith is also discussing possible changes with Jemmy Miller. They plan to have something to Council for review before the next meeting. Smith said the main thing they want to accomplish is that the homeowner has the garbage **contained** in a can with a lid or a trash box with a lid. He said if a resident is not in compliance they are considering sending a certified

letter to correct the matter and after 5 days if they are still not in compliance they will assess a \$50.00 fine. Newhouse said the trash boxes will be grandfathered in; there will be no new trash boxes. Bridges said we also need to look at the number of trash bags allowed. We need to reduce the amount we are taking to the landfill. He said there are people abusing the system and we need to keep tabs on this matter.

**Drainage South of Town** – Pavey said there was to be a meeting on February 13, but due to the death of Joe Keith, who was appointed to replace Tom Barnes, because he lives in the area, the meeting has been cancelled until another Board member can be appointed. Pavey has suggested that Gary Cameron be appointed. He said he thought Cameron would be an asset because of his work background. Pavey said he thinks they are working in the right direction. The Board is considering a tillable swale.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Swearing In of Police Officer Alan Wombolt**

**Process to Obtain Handicap Sign** – Tucker said a citizen had approached him to obtain a handicap sign in front of her residence. He said he would like to adopt some type of policy. Tucker said currently someone will call the Police Department to request a sign and they will go to the residence to determine if this is feasible and will not cause any traffic problems. If it is determined that the location constitutes a sign then the Police Department will contact the Street Department to place a sign. Tucker said we need to develop some type of accountability. He said nothing is being done if someone moves or passes away to keep tabs on these types of situations. Bridges suggested adding this to the GIS. Sheehan said we need to look to improve the process and include accountability so this doesn't get out of hand. A possible deposit for a sign was discussed and then when the sign is no longer needed the deposit would be returned.

**Use of Tasers** - Tucker said that Officer Wessell has completed training as an instructor for the use of tasers. He said the Board of Works voted to have Officer Wessell train the patrolman and they will then implement the program for our department.

**Rifle Program** - Tucker informed Council that the Board of Works voted to allow the Police Department to implement a rifle program after a policy is approved and all officers are properly trained. The rifles will be purchased at a reduced rate of \$552.91 for 13 rifles. The regular rate would be \$1,000.00 each.

**Police Department Promotions** – The following promotions were approved by the Board of Works:

Detective	-	Randy Meek
K-9 Officer	-	Michael Ervin

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Sergeant	-	Brad Wessell & Cale Worley
Sergeant	-	Aaron Gurley

**Ordinance 2012-3 Amending the Traffic Ordinance** – Councilman Smith said he has been approached regarding a possible stop sign at 8<sup>th</sup> & Maple Streets. He said there is a bus stop in the area and there is nothing to slow down the flow of traffic. He said he has witnessed this himself and is concerned for the safety of the kids. Sheehan asked if we still have a traffic committee. Pavey indicated that he thought it would be a good idea to continue with a traffic committee. He will also have the Police Department take a look at the area of 8<sup>th</sup> & Maple and get their recommendation.

Berkemeier made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-3 on first reading. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. Berkemeier made a motion to suspend the rules. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried. Berkemeier made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-3 on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Ordinance 2012-4 Small Purchase Policy** – Bridges made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-4. Smith questioned the amount of \$15,000.00 - \$50,000.00 being approved by the Board of Works as the purchasing agent. Smith said his concern was with the tight budget we have that big items would be purchased without the approval of Council. Pavey said this is not to circumvent the Council. Sheehan said the money for a large purchase should be appropriated. The Department Heads should not have to take the purchase from several different line items to make the purchase. Bridges withdrew his motion. Pavey suggested limiting the amount of the purchase to \$30,000.00 and that the purchase had to be within the appropriated line item. Newhouse will revise the ordinance.

**Health Insurance** – Pavey said he has been in conversation with Kevin Mandrell and they calculated that this year we will be short in our line item for health insurance by approximately \$59,000.00. Mandrell reviewed our current policies with Council and also gave them an overview of some options to consider. He said the dental, vision, long term disability, and life rates will all remain the same. Mandrell said that it **may** be possible to make some significant changes to the bottom line costs after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

He said if in 3 months we do not see any changes to reduce our cost then at that time Council might want to consider making changes to our current plans.

Mandrell said that one thing Council may consider to help reduce the City's cost is a spousal carve out, making it mandatory if a spouse is offered insurance through their employer that the spouse must take that insurance.

Sheehan asked if there was any place in the budget that we could use to help out the shortfall. Pavey said that he and Copley had looked at the budget and feel comfortable with finding approximately \$40,000.00.

**Fire Department Promotions** – The following promotions were approved by the Board of Works:

Lieutenant	-	Mike Justice
Captain	-	Chuck Kemker

**Billboard Contract** – Pavey said it is time to look at the billboard contract and asked for volunteers to review. Sheehan and Smith volunteered to be a part of the negotiation process.

**Confidentiality Agreement** – Pavey passed out a Confidentiality Agreement between the City and the ECDC. He said this is something he is comfortable with and asked Council to review and let him know if they have any questions or concerns.

Jim Finan gave a brief update to Council. He discussed the leads he has been working on this year. He said they are going to be working on updating the strategic plan. The most current one we have was from 2007. A meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2012 from 9:00 – 4:00.

Finan invited Council to attend an “Economic Development 101” at Rush Shelby Energy on February 22. This will be approximately 3 hours and will begin around 5:30 or 6:00. He will confirm the time.

**BIS Digital** – Pavey said he along with Councilman Smith, Copley, and Carla Sharpe met with the company and were given a demonstration of the product. He will be reviewing the pricing and report to Council.

**Claims** – Bridges made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Stellar Communities** – Pavey said we would not be applying for the Stellar Communities this year. He said we do not have all of the criteria need to apply. One item we need is to update our comprehensive plan. Therefore, this is something we will work toward that next year.

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There was no further business to come before Council; Berkemeier made a motion to adjourn. Sheehan seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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MICHAEL P. PAVEY, MAYOR

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ROBERT M. BRIDGES, MEMBER

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BRIAN G. CONNER, MEMBER

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CRAIG A. SMITH, MEMBER

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BRADLEY A. BERKEMEIER, MEMBER

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BRIAN J. SHEEHAN, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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ANN L. COPLEY, CLERK-TREASURER